

Message Text

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SUBJECT:POLITICAL JOURNALIST EXCHANGE

REF: A. MOSCOW 9193; B. STATE 24940

1. DEPT AGREEABLE TO EXCHANGE OF UP TO FIVE POLITICAL JOURNALISTS EACH WAY IN FALL, SUBJECT TO FIRM UNDERSTANDING THAT DELEGATIONS BE COMPRISED OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT, RPT NOT, VISITED RECEIVING COUNTRY PREVIOUSLY, OR AT LEAST NOT IN RECENT YEARS. OUR OBJECTIVE IN THIS EXCHANGE IS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FIRST HAND OBSERVATION AND PERSONAL INTERCHANGE TO JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE NOT YET HAD THAT OPPORTUNITY. AS NOTED REFTEL B, WE ARE SPECIFICALLY NOT WILLING TO INCLUDE IN THIS EXCHANGE, IF WE ARE TO FUND IT, OLD LINE SOVIET CORRESPONDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED IN WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK AND WHO ALREADY KNOW THIS COUNTRY WELL. SIMILARLY, WE WOULD NOT PLAN INCLUDE ANY US JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE SERVED IN SOVIET UNION. THIS CONNECTION, NONE OF TEN JOURNALISTS

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SENT BY COMMITTEE OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS (CYO) IN JANUARY

UNDER CYO-ACYPL YOUNG JOURNALIST EXCHANGE HAD VISITED U.S.
PREVIOUSLY (ALTHOUGH ACCOMPANYING CYO STAFFER HAD).

2. DEPT CONCURS WITH CONDITION THAT SENDING SIDE FUND IN-
TERNATIONAL TRAVEL WHILE RECEIVING SIDE FUND INTERNAL TRAVEL
AND SUBSISTANCE. SISCO

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